

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for preparation of a porous gelatin material in the form of porous spheres with a continuous pore structure, the method comprising the steps:

preparing a homogeneous water-based gelatin solution;

adding an emulsifier with an hydrophilic-lipophilic balance (HLB) value >9;

adding a first composition comprising an organic solvent and an emulsifier with an HLB value >9;

adding a second composition comprising an organic solvent and an emulsifier with an HLB value <8; and

allowing the gelatin material to solidify.

2. (Currently Amended) A method for preparation of a cast, three-dimensional, porous gelatin structure with a continuous pore structure, the method comprising the steps:

preparing a homogenous water-based gelatin solution;

adding an emulsifier with an HLB value >9;

adding a first composition comprising an organic solvent and an emulsifier with an HLB value >9; and

casting the gelatin solution in a mould.

3. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of chemically crosslinking the gelatin material.

4. (Previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the chemical crosslinking is carried out with poly- or bifunctional isocyanate compounds, , poly- or bifunctional aldehydes, or with formaldehyde.

5. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claims 1 or 2, wherein the emulsifier with an HLB value >9 is selected from the group consisting of Tween 80, Tween 40, Myrj 52, and Brij 58.

6. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the emulsifier with an HLB value <8 is selected from the group consisting of Span 85, Span 65, and Atmos 300.

7. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claims 1 or 2, wherein the organic solvent is selected from the group consisting of cyclohexane, toluene, paraffin oils and industrial benzene.

8. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the organic solvent is cyclohexane.

9. (Cancelled) A porous gelatin material in the form of spheres with a continuous pore structure obtainable by preparing a homogeneous water-based gelatin solution; adding an emulsifier with an HLB value >9; adding a first composition comprising an organic solvent and an emulsifier with an HLB value >9; adding a second composition comprising an organic solvent and an emulsifier with an HLB value <8; and allowing the gelatin material to solidify.

10. (Cancelled) A cast, three-dimensional, porous gelatin structure obtainable by: preparing a homogenous water-based gelatin solution; adding an emulsifier with an HLB value >9 ; adding a composition comprising an organic solvent and an emulsifier with an HLB value >9 ; and casting the gelatin solution in a mould.

11. (Cancelled) A carrier for cells comprising a porous gelatin material or a cast three-dimensional porous gelatin structure produced in accordance with the method of claim 1.

12. (Cancelled) A culture of artificial skin, artificial organs, or fatty tissue and blood vessels comprising the biocompatible porous material or a cast three-dimensional porous gelatin structure produced in accordance with the process of claim 1.

13. (Cancelled) An implant comprising a porous gelatin material or a cast three-dimensional porous gelatin structure produced in accordance with the method of claim 1.

14. (Cancelled) A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the cast three-dimensional gelatin structure is selected among tubes, ears and in-vivo-like structures.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled) A method as claimed in claim 2, further comprising the step of chemically crosslinking the gelatin material.

17. (Cancelled) A method as claimed in claim 11, wherein the cast three-dimensional gelatin structure is selected among tubes, ears, and in-vivo-like structures.

18. (Cancelled) A gelatin material according to claim 9, wherein the gelatin has been chemically crosslinked.

19. (Cancelled) A gelatin structure according to claim 10, wherein the gelatin has been chemically crosslinked.

20. (Cancelled) A method for implanting in an individual a porous gelatin material as claimed in claim 9 as carrier for cells for the production of biological substances, comprising introducing such cells onto said material, implanting said porous gelatin material in the individual and allowing the cells on said material to produce said substances.

21. (Cancelled) A method for implanting in an individual a porous gelatin material as claimed in claim 18 as carrier for cells for the production of biological substances, comprising introducing such cells onto said material, implanting said porous gelatin material in the individual and allowing the cells on said material to produce said substances.

22. (Cancelled) A method for implanting in an individual a cast, three dimensional, porous gelatin structure as claimed in claim 10 as carrier for cells for the production of biological substances, comprising introducing such cells onto said structure, implanting said cast, three-dimensional, porous gelatin structure in the individual and allowing the cells on said structure to produce said substances.

23. (Cancelled) A method for implanting in an individual a cast, three dimensional, porous gelatin structure as claimed in claim 19 as carrier for cells for the production of biological substances, comprising introducing such cells onto structure, implanting said cast, three-dimensional, porous gelatin structure in the individual and allowing the cells on said structure to produce said substances.

24. (Cancelled) A method for implanting in an individual a porous gelatin material as claimed in claim 9, comprising implanting such material at a site in need of treatment, and allowing the surrounding cells to migrate to said site and colonize thereat, such as for smoothing out wrinkles.

25. (Cancelled) A method for implanting in an individual a cast, three-dimensional, porous gelatin structure as claimed in claim 18, comprising implanting such material at a site in need of treatment, and allowing the surrounding cells to migrate to said site and colonize thereat, such as for smoothing out wrinkles.

26. (Cancelled) A method for implanting in an individual a cast, three-dimensional, porous gelatin structure as claimed in claim 10, comprising implanting such structure at a site in need of treatment, and allowing the surrounding cells to migrate to said site and colonize thereat, such as for smoothing out wrinkles.

27. (Cancelled) A method for implanting in an individual a cast, three-dimensional, porous gelatin structure as claimed in claim 19, comprising implanting such structure at a site in need of treatment, and allowing the surrounding cells to migrate to said site and colonize thereat, such as for smoothing out wrinkles.

28. (Cancelled) A method for improving in vivo healing of damaged tissue, comprising introducing appropriate cells onto a porous gelatin material as claimed in claim 9, and implanting said material or cast at a site of damaged tissue.

29. (Cancelled) A method for improving in vivo healing of damaged tissue, comprising introducing appropriate cells onto a porous gelatin material as claimed in claim 18, and implanting said material or cast at a site of damaged tissue.

30. (Cancelled) A method for improving in vivo healing of damaged tissue, comprising introducing appropriate cells onto a cast, three-dimensional, porous gelatin structure as claimed in claim 10 and implanting said material or cast at a site of damaged tissue.

31. (Cancelled) A method for improving in vivo healing of damaged tissue, comprising introducing appropriate cells onto a cast, three-dimensional, porous gelatin structure as claimed in claim 19 and implanting said material or cast at a site of damaged tissue.

32. (Cancelled) A method for improving in vivo healing of damaged tissue, comprising implanting a porous gelatin material as claimed in claim 9 at a site of damaged tissue and allowing the individuals own cells to proliferate on said material or cast.

33. (Cancelled) A method for improving in vivo healing of damaged tissue, comprising implanting a porous gelatin material as claimed in claim 18 at a site of damaged tissue and allowing the individuals own cells to proliferate on said material or cast.

34. (Cancelled) A method for improving in vivo healing of damaged tissue, comprising implanting, or a cast, three-dimensional, porous gelatin structure as claimed in claim 10 at a site of damaged tissue and allowing the individuals own cells to proliferate on said material or cast.

35. (Cancelled) A method for improving in vivo healing of damaged tissue, comprising implanting a cast, three-dimensional, porous gelatin structure as claimed in claim 19 at a site of damaged tissue and allowing the individuals own cells to proliferate on said material or cast.